

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently Amended) ~~A data processing~~ An automated system as claimed in claim 22 4, ~~wherein in which~~ the controller for processing data representing the first video sequence comprises a presentation engine.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~A data processing~~ An automated system as claimed in claim 2, ~~wherein in which~~ the first video sequence comprises a user data field in which the unique identification data is stored.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~A data processing~~ An automated system as claimed in claim 22 4, further comprising a navigation controller for controlling access to the first video sequence in response to associated navigation data.
5. (Canceled).
6. (Currently Amended) ~~A data processing~~ An automated system as claimed in claim 4 further comprising a register modifier for writing the navigation data to at least one predetermined register accessible by the navigation controller to influence the operation of the navigation controller.
7. (Canceled).
8. (Canceled).
9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23 8, ~~further comprising in which the step of outputting comprises the step of~~ creating a record of the comparison; the record providing an indication of whether or not the retrieved ~~high-level~~ abstraction matched the anticipated ~~high-level~~ abstraction.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23 8, wherein in which the step of processing the data stream extracting comprises the step of extracting the identification data from a user field of an encoded elementary video stream.

11. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, 8 in which the step of processing the data stream comprises the step of further comprising identifying a current menu associated with the data stream.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 11 further comprising the step of identifying menu option data, representing at least one option, associated with the current menu and invoking at the at least one option to select and process a next video sequence data stream.

13. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23 8 further comprising the step of creating the test plan.

14. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the step of creating the test plan comprises the steps of creating at least one of an anticipated unique identifier, an abstraction anticipated as being associated with a unique identifier, an actual abstraction associated with the unique identifier, entry conditions or status information and command information.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein in which the step of creating the test plan comprises the step of associating the identification data of the data stream with an anticipated abstraction representing audiovisual content of the data stream.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23 8 further comprising the step of creating an index comprising an identification data entry for storing a copy of the identification data, and at least a reference to a corresponding abstraction; and in which the step of comparing comprises the step of accessing the index using the identification data as a key to identify the corresponding abstraction.

Claim 17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A physical storage medium storing a program for testing navigational paths through digital content comprising a first video sequence having associated identification data, wherein the program when run on a processor-based system causes the system to:

extract the identification data from the video sequence;
access, using the identification data, an abstraction, said abstraction being associated with a raw content object from which the first video sequence was derived; and
determine whether there is a correlation between the accessed abstraction and an anticipated abstraction of a test plan comprising a plurality of abstractions associated with respective raw content objects during authoring of the digital content ~~comprising executable code to implement a system as claimed in claim 1.~~

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (New) An automated system for testing navigational paths through digital content comprising a first video sequence having associated identification data, the system comprising:

means for extracting the identification data from the video sequence and for accessing, using the identification data, an abstraction, said abstraction being associated with a raw content object from which the first video sequence was derived; and

a correlator to determine whether there is a correlation between the accessed abstraction and an anticipated abstraction of a test plan comprising a plurality of abstractions associated with respective raw content objects during authoring of the digital content.

23. (New) An automated method for testing navigational paths through digital content comprising a first video sequence having associated identification data, the method comprising:

extracting the identification data from the video sequence;
accessing, using the identification data, an abstraction, said abstraction being associated with a raw content object from which the first video sequence was derived; and

determining whether there is a correlation between the accessed abstraction and an anticipated abstraction of a test plan comprising a plurality of abstractions associated with respective raw content objects during authoring of the digital content.